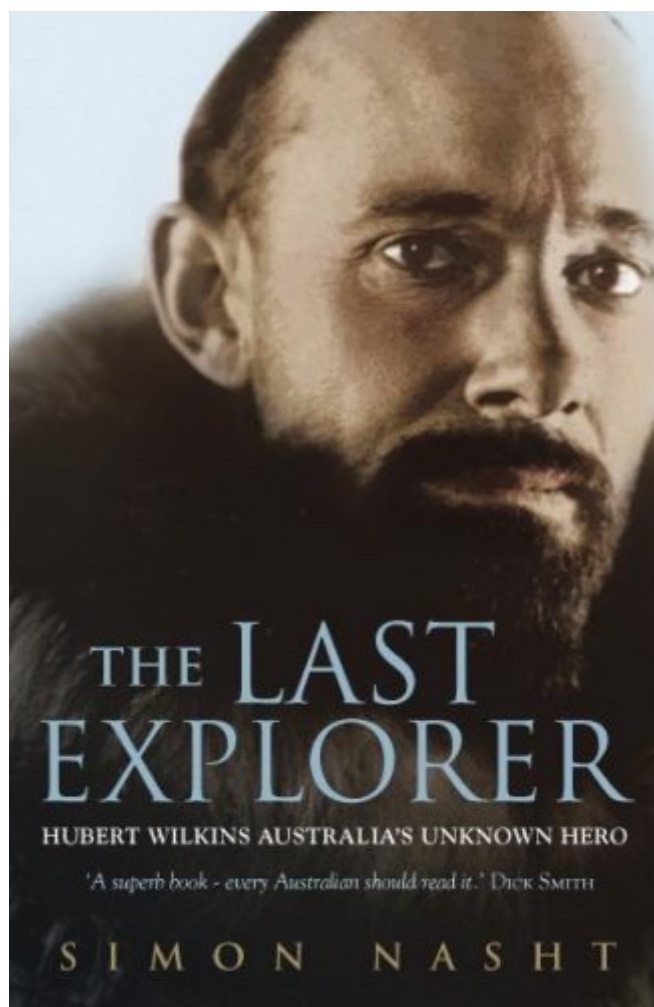


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The Last Explorer: Hubert Wilkins, Australia's Unknown Hero



Synopsis

“A superb book” – every Australian should read it. – Dick Smith
The gripping story of one of the greatest explorers of the 20th Century. Hubert Wilkins was truly the last – and one of the greatest – explorers. And much more than that. Born in South Australia, he spent much of his life outside the country – but always remained an Australian. He travelled through every continent and was a pioneer of aviation. He survived crashes and disasters, firing squads and sabotage, living long enough to be honoured by kings, presidents and dictators. He was a frontline photographer in World War I – and was twice decorated. He took the first ever film of battle and took the first moving images from an aircraft. He was the first man to fly across the Arctic Ocean, the first to fly in the Antarctic – and the first to fly from America to Europe across the then unknown Arctic (the New York Times called this ‘the greatest flight in history’). In the 1930s he spent several years travelling in western Queensland and the Northern Territory – where many of his observations and views were ahead of their time. In the later years of his life he did work for the US military and intelligence – and in 1958 was buried at sea at the North Pole by the US Navy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Prior to reading Simon Nasht's "The Last Explorer: Hubert Wilkins, Australia's Unknown Hero" I had

no absolutely no idea about this amazing South Australian explorer, aviator, adventurer, budding meteorologist, Arctic and Antarctic explorer, a man who ought to be celebrated throughout Australia. No statues have been erected to this man - no bronze plaques - I want to spread the word. Read this book, you will be rewarded.

Wow, what an interesting read. I am originally from Adelaide, South Australia, and never knew that an explorer, serviceman, daredevil, scientist like Sir Hubert was from my home country, let alone my home state. Sir Hubert discovered more new areas on the Earth than any other man in history and did it without seeking acclaim. He was a courageous photographer during the Balkans War, prior to WWI, and then during WWI. A pioneer of aviation and the use of aviation in exploration and photography. He also was ahead of his time when it came to meteorology and submarines. Being an ex-submariner myself, and understanding how unsafe boats from the WW1 era were, I was surprised that he and his crew on the Nautilus (1920's version) attempted and returned from diving under the arctic ice cap. Whilst this was considered a failure at the time, it was still an amazing feat! This guy was also on board the Graf Zeppelin when it completed a number of firsts, including circumnavigating the globe. A great read!

As an Australian I was fascinated by this biography. If you mention his name in this country you get a blank response.. His exploits deserve the coverage that is given in this book. I recommend it particularly to my fellow countrymen.

Wow! If I could only have been on one of his adventures I would have said I lived a life. Why are we Australians not being taught anything about this man and the way he led his life. There are lessons to be learnt that our youth could learn how to really get the most out of life.

Wow, what an adventurer! Beautifully written, felt I was right there with them! An amazing South Australian who achieved so much.

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